

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
JUNICHIRO NISHI )  
Serial No.: N/A )Group Art Unit: N/A  
Filed: N/A )Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
For: **REAL-TIME INTERNET AUCTION** )March 15, 2001  
**SYSTEM** )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**EXPRESS MAIL**  
**EL338292607US**

Dear Commissioner:

Prior to examination of this application please enter the following  
preliminary amendment:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, please cancel lines 3 through 35.

Page 2, please cancel lines 1 - 20.

After page 17 please add the following:

--What is claimed is:

1. A real-time auction system comprising:  
a first computer operated by an auction organizer;

a second computer operated by an assessor who exhibits and sells products;

a plurality of third computers operated by buyers;

a fourth computer in a center for processing;

all of the computers being connected to an online system for receiving and sending data on an auction;

the auction being performed as follows:

step 1: the buyers bid a price for a product during a first predetermined time period, with the bid price being transmitted to the first computer;

step 2: status of bidding on the product is transmitted to all of the computers over the online system;

step 3: the organizer, the assessor and the buyers confirming the bidding status during a second predetermined time period;

step 4: if there is more than one bid above a reserve price for the product set by the assessor, step 1, step 2 and step 3 are repeated a predetermined number of times until there is only one bid left; the one bid left being the successful bidder;

2. The real-time auction system of claim 1 wherein screens of the third computers have a time indicator, a bid price indicator and a bid button; and wherein during the first predetermined time period a gradually increasing price is displayed on the bid price indicator from a start price to

a ceiling price while the time indicator rises at the same time and at the same speed.

3. The real-time auction system of claim 2 wherein the buyers may click on the bid button when the bid price indicator reaches a price the buyers want to bid.

4. The real-time auction system of claim 3 wherein the buyers may enter a pre-entered bid before the auction opens; the pre-entered bid being entered by the buyers when the auction is open and being treated as maximum bid prices.

5. The real-time auction system of claim 4 wherein if no bid is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor, the assessor can designate the buyer who bid the highest price as the successful bidder on the second computer.

6. The real-time auction system of claim 5 wherein a first bidder who enters a price that is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor can see an indication that the first bidder was the first to enter such a price.

7. The real-time auction system of claim 6, further including electromagnetic media for storing computer programs used by the first computer, the second computer, the plurality of third computers and the fourth computer.

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8. The real-time auction system of claim 1 wherein the buyers may enter a pre-entered bid before the auction opens; the pre-entered bid being entered by the buyers when the auction is open and being treated as a maximum bid price.

9. The real-time auction system of claim 2 wherein the buyers may enter a pre-entered bid before the auction opens; the pre-entered bid being entered by the buyers when the auction is open and being treated as a maximum bid price.

10. The real-time auction system of claim 1 wherein if no bid is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor, the assessor can designate the buyer who bid the highest price as the successful bidder on the second computer.

11. The real-time auction system of claim 2 wherein if no bid is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor, the assessor can designate the buyer who bid the highest price as the successful bidder on the second computer.

12. The real-time auction system of claim 3 wherein if no bid is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor, the assessor can designate the buyer who bid the highest price as the successful bidder on the second computer.

13. The real-time auction system of claim 4 wherein if no bid is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor, the assessor can

designate the buyer who bid the highest price as the successful bidder on the second computer.

14. The real-time auction system of claim 1 wherein a first bidder who enters a price that is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor can see an indication that the first bidder was the first to enter such a price.

15. The real-time auction system of claim 2 wherein a first bidder who enters a price that is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor can see an indication that the first bidder was the first to enter such a price.

16. The real-time auction system of claim 3 wherein a first bidder who enters a price that is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor can see an indication that the first bidder was the first to enter such a price.

17. The real-time auction system of claim 4 wherein a first bidder who enters a price that is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor can see an indication that the first bidder was the first to enter such a price.

18. The real-time auction system of claim 5 wherein a first bidder who enters a price that is above the reserve price for the product set by the assessor can see an indication that the first bidder was the first to enter such a price.

19. The real-time auction system of claim 1, further including electromagnetic media for storing computer programs used by the first computer, the second computer, the plurality of third computers and the fourth computer.

20. The real-time auction system of claim 2, further including electromagnetic media for storing computer programs used by the first computer, the second computer, the plurality of third computers and the fourth computer.--

Page 18, delete in its entirety, and insert:

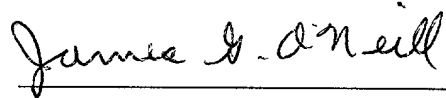
### **--ABSTRACT**

A real-time auction system that is the same as traditional auctions by utilizing the internet. The system utilizes computers in which a number of buyers bid a price for a product and the bids are transmitted over the internet to a computer for an organizer, an assessor, a center and each buyer. If there is more than one bid over a reserve price set by the assessor the process repeats until at only one bid is left. The one bid left is the successful bidder. When there are no bids above the reserve price set, the process repeats a predetermined number of times.--

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If there are any questions regarding this preliminary amendment, please contact Applicant's attorney.

Very truly yours,



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